

Message Text

SECRET

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43

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 EA-13 H-01 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 IGA-01 AID-10 RSR-01 DODE-00

PRS-01 /066 W

----- 080197

R 161200 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0229

S E C R E T SAIGON 6436

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR VS MARR

SUBJ: MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER KHIEM

1. IN THE COURSE OF A TALK WITH PRIME MINISTER KHIEM TODAY, WHITEHOUSE OBTAINED HIS CONCURRENCE TO MOOSE AND LOWENSTEIN CALLING ON PRG DELEGATION AT CAMP DAVIS. WE ARE TRYING TO ARRANGE THIS MEETING FOR APRIL 17.
 2. WHITEHOUSE SUGGESTED TO PRIME MINISTER THAT HE REVIEW ADEQUACY OF CONTACTS BETWEEN GVN DELEGATION TPJMC AND INTERNATIONAL PRESS, NOTING THAT GVN POSITION ON TONG LE CHAN CEASE- FIRE VIOLATIONS, MEETINGS OF FIELD COMMANDERS AND OTHER TPJMC MATTERS SHOULD BE KEPT IN THE PUBLIC EYE. HE ALSO URGED PRIME MINISTER TO INSTRUCT GVN DELEGATION ON FPJMT TO BE FLEXIBLE AND FORTHCOMING IN ORDER TO AVOID HAVING THIS FORUM BOG DOWN IN PROCEDURAL DETAILS. WHITEHOUSE POINTED OUT THAT MIA ISSUE WAS VERY IMPORTANT IN THE US AS SENATOR BROOKE HAD MENTIONED AND THAT HAGGLING OVER QUESTIONS LIKE THE SIZE OF THE NVA DELEGATION WOULD NOT BE WELL RECEIVED AT HOME IF THEY APPEARED TO DELAY RESOLUTION OF MIA QUESTIONS.
 3. IN BRIEF REVIEW OF CURRENT SITUATION, PRIME MINISTER STATED THAT HE DID NOT REPEAT NOT BELIEVE CURRENT REPORTS AND RUMOURS OF IMPENDING COMMUNIST OFFENSIVE. IN HIS VIEW OTHER
- SECRET

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SIDE WILL STAY IN ITS PRESENT POSTURE THROUGH THE MONSOON AND
FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS SHOULD NOT BE ANTICIPATED UNTIL THE NEXT DRY
SEASON. PRIME MINISTER STATED THAT MAJOR MILITARY ACTIVITY BY
THE OTHER SIDE AT THIS TIME WOULD BE PREMATURE.
BUNKER

SECRET

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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